

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests further examination and reconsideration in view of the amendments above and the arguments set forth fully below. Claims 1-22 were previously pending in this application. Within the Office Action, Claims 1-3, 5, 7-9, 11, 12, 14-17 and 19 have been rejected, Claims 4, 6, 10, 13 and 18 have been objected to and Claims 20-22 have been allowed. By the above amendment, Claims 2, 4-7, 9-11, 13 and 16-18 have been amended and Claims 1, 3, 8 and 15 have been canceled. Accordingly, Claims 2, 4-7, 9-14 and 16-22 are now pending in the application.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Within the Office Action, Claims 1-3, 5, 7-9, 11, 12, 14-17 and 19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,745,252 to Yanagawa et al. (hereinafter "Yanagawa"). Within the Office Action, it is also indicated that 4, 6, 10, 13 and 18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. By the above amendment, each of the Claims 4, 6, 10, 13 and 18 have been rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, as indicated within the Office Action, each of the independent Claims 4, 6, 10, 13 and 18 are allowable.

Claims 2, 5 and 7 are dependent on the independent Claim 4. Claims 9, 11, 12 and 14 are dependent on the independent Claim 10. Claims 16, 17 and 19 are dependent on the independent Claim 18. As described above, the independent Claims 4, 10 and 18 are allowable. Accordingly, Claims 2, 5, 7, 9, 11, 12, 14, 16, 17 and 19 are all also allowable as being dependent on an allowable base claim.

By the above amendment, Claims 1, 3, 8 and 15 have been canceled.

Within the Office Action, Claims 20-22 are allowed.

For the reasons given above, the Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 2, 4-7, 9-14 and 16-22 are now in a condition for allowance, and allowance at an early date would be appreciated. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, they are encouraged to call the undersigned at (408) 530-9700 to discuss the same so that any outstanding issues can be expeditiously resolved.

Respectfully submitted,
HAVERSTOCK & OWENS LLP

Dated: July 15, 2005

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR § 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

HAVERSTOCK & OWENS LLP

Date: 7/15/05 By: [Signature]